

What is claimed is:

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1. A checkout device comprising:

a scale assembly including a base portion and a weigh scale over the base portion;

wherein the weigh plate includes an aperture;

a barcode reader between the base portion and the weight scale which reads a barcode through the aperture in the weigh plate; and

a security label deactivation system between the base portion and the weigh plate.

2. The checkout device as recited in claim 1, wherein the barcode reader enables the security label deactivation system following reading of the barcode.

3. The checkout device as recited in claim 1, wherein the security label deactivation system includes a magnetic coil assembly for sensing and deactivating a security label.

4. The checkout device as recited in claim 3, wherein the barcode reader reads the barcode before the magnetic coil assembly senses and deactivates the security label.

5. The checkout device as recited in claim 1, further comprising an interlock which enables the security label deactivation system following reading of the barcode.

6. The checkout device as recited in claim 1, wherein the scale assembly fits within a standard checkstand hole measuring about 11.5 inches by 20 inches.

7. A checkout system comprising:
a checkout device including
a scale assembly including a base portion and a
weigh scale over the base portion;
wherein the weigh plate includes an aperture;
a barcode reader between the base portion and the
weight scale which reads a barcode through the aperture in
the weigh plate; and
an security label deactivation system between the
base portion and the weight scale;
a transaction terminal; and
a cable coupling the checkout device to the transaction
terminal, including lines for providing power to the barcode
reader and the scale assembly.

8. The checkout system as recited in claim 7, wherein
the cable further comprises additional lines for carrying
data between the transaction terminal and the barcode reader
and between the transaction terminal and the scale.

9. The checkout system as recited in claim 7, wherein
the cable is a Y-shaped cable.

10. The checkout system as recited in claim 9, wherein
the barcode reader includes first and second ports.

11. The checkout system as recited in claim 10, wherein the Y-shaped cable includes a first connector which is coupled to a third port of the transaction terminal, a second connector which is coupled to the first port of the barcode reader, and a third connector which is coupled to a fourth port of the scale assembly.

12. A checkout method comprising the steps of:
reading a barcode label on an item moving in a path, which crosses an aperture of a scale weigh plate by a barcode reader between the aperture and a scale base portion;
sending a signal to an interlock by the barcode reader;
enabling a security label deactivation system between the scale weigh plate and the scale base portion and in a downstream position from the barcode reader relative to the path of the item;
detecting a security label on the item by the security label deactivation system as the item moves along the path and crosses the security label deactivation system; and
deactivating the security label by the security label deactivation system.

13. The method as recited in claim 12, wherein the detecting step comprises the substeps of:
sensing movement a magnetic material in the security label as it passes near a coil assembly in the security label deactivation system.

14. The method as recited in claim 12, wherein the detecting step comprises the substeps of:

demagnetizing a magnetic material in the security label as it passes near a coil assembly in the security label deactivation system.